

1978 Laburnum Dist

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History of Ridgeway Church - Glenn Circuit

In or about 1888 Rev. W. T. Bell and Rev. A. J. Jarrell organized Ridgeway Methodist church, under a bush arbor, about one-fourth mile south-east of the present building.

Members in the organization of the church were:

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hightower
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Lit Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Edwards
Miss Fannie Smith

These brave souls held worship services and carried on the affairs of the church in face of conditions that would discourage most of us today. Prejudice was rife, and opposition to Methodism was intense, yet in the summer of 1891, these brave men, with the assistance of Rev. W. L. Davenport and others of the community went into the woods, felled trees, hued and notched the logs and erected the first building on the site of the present building.

Methodism filled the need of the community to the extent that in 1912 it became necessary to erect a new and better building.

Plans were drawn and Carl Crouch was contracted with to erect the new building at the cost of \$1000.00.

Ridgeway Methodist Church first worked under the West Heard Mission, then Roopville circuit, was transferred to Glenn Circuit, then to the Franklin Circuit, and now is again on the Glenn Circuit.

Today Methodism is playing an important part in the religious and educational activities in the community and surrounding territory.